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**THE INSECT PEST SURVEY
BULLETIN**

A periodical review of entomological conditions throughout the United States
issued on the first of each month from March to December, inclusive.

Volume 8

April 1, 1928

Number 2

**BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND
THE STATE ENTOMOLOGICAL
AGENCIES COOPERATING**

OUTSTANDING ENTOMOLOGICAL FEATURES IN THE UNITED STATES FOR MARCH, 1928.

Spring surveys indicate that the Hessian fly is seriously infesting wheat in the central and southern counties of Kansas and parts of Oklahoma. Very serious injury to wheat in northeastern Virginia is also reported, so serious that farmers now contemplate plowing out the wheat.

The green-bug situation is rather serious in Oklahoma. Infestations have been prevalent all winter and but little parasitism has been observed so far. No heavy flights have been observed, however. This insect is also reported as abundant near Wichita Falls and Denton, Tex.

The peach borer has appeared in a nursery in Los Angeles County, Calif. Inasmuch as this pest is not established in this county, an eradication campaign has been inaugurated.

The vegetable weevil is again doing serious damage in southern Mississippi.

The seed corn maggot is being reported as seriously damaging truck in Mississippi, and with the cold, late spring, there is a possibility of successive outbreaks of this insect northward.

An interesting note on damage to sweet potatoes in storage has been received from Mississippi, recording the grading out of 40 per cent of a 4,400 bushel crop of sweet potatoes because of damage by wireworms.

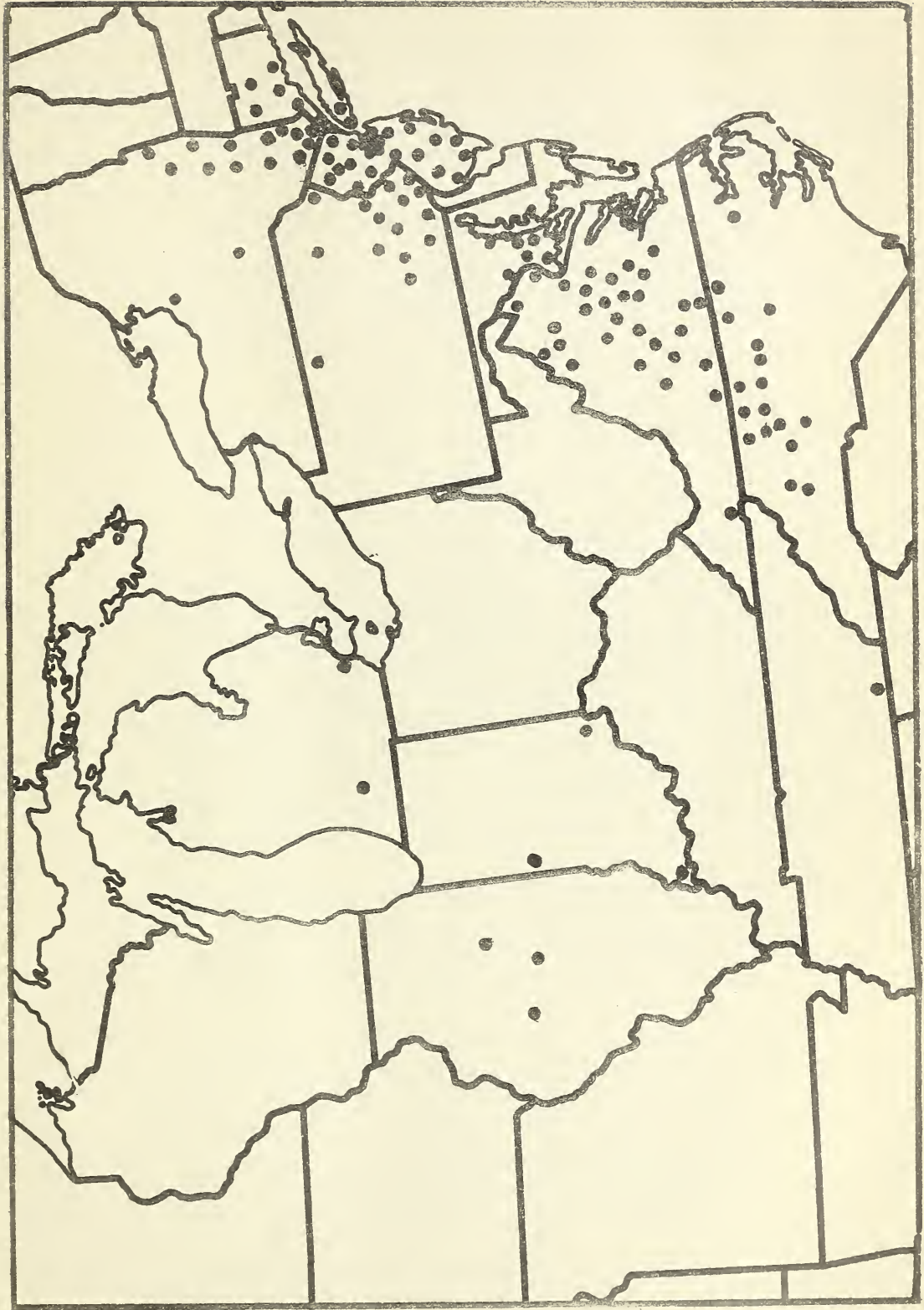
PERIODICAL CICADA, BROOD II.

Brood II of the periodical cicada, the first large brood recorded from the Middle Atlantic States, is due to appear this spring. This brood occupies, in general, the territory immediately east of Brood I. A few rather doubtful records have been made from Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, which certainly should be confirmed or disproved this year. Owing to the fact that it occurs throughout the densely populated region of the Middle Atlantic seaboard, it is one of the best recorded broods of this insect.

This brood was known by Fitch as Brood II and by Walsh and Riley as Brood VIII and later by Riley as Brood XII. It is now generally accepted as Brood II, following Marlatt. The brood has been definitely recorded since 1724 in Connecticut and since 1775 in New Jersey.

PERIODICAL CICADA

Geographical distribution of Brood II.



GENERAL FEEDERS

WHITE GRUBS (Phyllorhaga spp.)

North Carolina C. H. Brannon (March 3): Mr. O. O. Dukes, County Agent, Robeson County, reports considerable damage to tobacco plant beds by "white grubs."

A WHITE GRUB (Phyllorhaga futilis Lec.)

Kansas J. W. McColloch (March 22): The first flight of May beetles this year occurred on the evening of March 21 at Manhattan.

CEREAL AND FORAGE-CROP INSECTS

WHEAT

HESSIAN FLY (Phytophaga destructor Say)

Virginia W. J. Schoene (March 20): We have received several reports of serious injury to wheat in Frederick County by the Hessian fly, (March 26): The Hessian-fly injury in the northern part of the State, particularly in Frederick, Clark, and Shenandoah Counties, is serious. The winter has been very unfavorable to wheat in that vicinity and much of it is winter killed. This, together with the fly injury, is such that some of the farmers are thinking of plowing up their wheat fields.

Kansas J. W. McColloch (March 21): Reports of Hessian-fly damage are beginning to come in. Many fields in Harper County are badly infested. Reports to the State Board of Agriculture indicate losses from the fly in the central counties.

Oklahoma C. E. Sanborn (March 20): The Hessian fly was exceptionally abundant last fall and practically all wheat in the infested area sown early was badly infested, some of it to the extent that it was plowed under. Wheat sown after the date which we established as a fly-free date, October 12, was quite generally free from infestation. So many fields were sown before this date, however, that the infestation was carried over and at the present time the noninfested fields are doubtless being severely infested since the spring brood has been issued here for about two weeks.

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GREEN BUG (Toxoptera graminum Rond.)

Oklahoma C. E. Sanborn (March 20): The green bug is prevalent

throughout the State, north and south from Newkirk to Ardmore. No particular flight of winged forms has yet occurred this spring. The infestation has been more or less prevalent since wheat germinated last fall. Infestation occurs also in barley and perhaps will be rather serious in oats. Not many parasites have been reported up to the present time.

C. S. Rude (March 14): This pest is showing up in a belt clear across from the southern to the northern part of Oklahoma. At present it is to be found in Jefferson, Comanche, Stephens, Grady, Caddo, Canadian, Blaine, Kingfisher, Logan, Noble, Kay, and Garfield Counties.

Texas

Monthly Letter Bureau of Entomology, No. 166, (February, 1928). Early in February F. W. Boyd, of the field laboratory at San Antonio, Tex., made a trip through northern Texas to study the effects of the extremely cold weather on green bugs. He reports that they continue to be abundant near Wichita Falls and in the neighborhood of Denton. So far as he was able to find, the cold weather has had no effect on them.

PLAINS FALSE WIREWORM (Eleodes opaca Say)

Kansas

J. W. McColloch (February 27): Larvae of this species are abundant in wheat fields about Goodland.

CUTWORMS (Noctuidae)

Kansas

J. W. McColloch (March 20): Injury to wheat by cutworms has been reported as follows:

February 3.....Goodland
March 12.....Olmitz
March 16.....Levant

Specimens received from Olmitz proved to be the army cutworm,

ALFALFA

PEA APHID (Illinoia pisi Kalt.)

Oklahoma

C. E. Sanborn (March 20): Macrosiphum pisi is doing considerable damage in Oklahoma to alfalfa. Reports are available from the western part of the State at Clinton. It is also prevalent in other localities and doing considerable damage.

C. S. Rude (March 14): They are numerous enough to call for control work in the northwestern part of the State.

FRUIT INSECTS

APPLE

APPLE APHID (Aphis pomi DeG.)

Oregon Don C. Mote (March 19): Mr. Thompson reports first green apple aphid on apple bud. Buds are in green-tip stage.

CODLING MOTH (Carpocapsa pomonella L.)

Oregon Don C. Mote (March 19): Mr. Thompson reports the codling moth still in the larval stage at Corvallis.

Washington Official Record, Vol. 7, No. 10, March 7: One of the introduced parasites of the codling moth, Ascoaster carpocapsae, seems to be well established in the vicinity of Yakima, and is increasing according to a report received recently by the Bureau of Entomology.

EASTERN TENT CATERPILLAR (Malacosoma americana Fab.)

Arkansas W. J. Baerg (March 23): The young caterpillars began emerging on March 22 and 23. Egg masses are not numerous, and infestation will probably be light.

SCURFY SCALE (Chionaspis furfura Fitch)

Ohio E. W. Mendenhall (March 1): I find the scurfy scale quite bad on apple and pear trees in the home or farm orchards, especially where little care is given to spraying in the southwestern part of the State.

PEAR

PEAR THRIPS (Taeniothrips inconsequens Uzel)

Oregon Don C. Mote (March 7): Prune or pear thrips, Taeniothrips inconsequens Uzel, found in pear buds at Corvallis. (March 14): Prune buds just showing green; warm sunny weather. (March 17-18-19): Exceptionally warm weather; maximum emergence of prune and pear thrips. March 18, maximum temperature 73°F., minimum 42°F.

PEACH

PEACH BORER (Aegeria exitiosa Say)

California Monthly News Letter, Los Angeles County Horticultural Commission, Vol. 10, No. 3 (March 15): The finding of the peach-root borer belonging to the family of clear-winged moths, a serious pest of peaches in 2 local nurseries,

occasioned an immediate eradication campaign under the supervision of Deputy Horticultural Commissioner G. R. Gorton, in charge of Insect Pest Quarantine in Los Angeles County. As a result it has been necessary to arrange for the destruction of some 3,000 flowering peach trees of various species in these nurseries. This action was taken by Mr. Gorton for the reason that this pest is not of common occurrence in Southern California and has never previously been reported in Los Angeles County.

A check of the previous distribution of all flowering peach trees from this nursery has been completed and necessary action taken to eliminate all possibility of infestation from this source. A detailed survey of all territory within a 2-mile radius of the infested nurseries has failed to show any other infestations.

COCONUT

DESTRUCTOR SCALE (Aspidiotus destructor Signoret)

Fiji Islands Montly Letter Bureau of Entomology, No. 166, February, 1928:
From James Zetek, in charge of the field laboratory at Ancon, Canal Zone, it is learned that on February 1, T. H. C. Taylor, Entomologist to the Department of Agriculture of Fiji, arrived in the Canal Zone on a journey from Trinidad, and was a visitor at the field laboratory until his departure on February 3 for the Fiji Islands. He brought with him a large shipment of cages containing young coconut palms heavily infested with the scale insect Aspidiotus destructor, and at least five species of ladybird beetles. This scale insect is particularly troublesome in Fiji, and Mr. Taylor believes that at least two of these ladybird beetles will prove very efficient in controlling it.

LEVUANA MOTH (Levuana iridescens Bethune-Baker)

Fiji Islands Monthly Letter Bureau of Entomology, No. 166, February, 1928:
The Levuana moth, a serious pest of the coconut in Fiji, is now under complete control by parasites introduced by Mr. Taylor.

CITRUS

SPIRAEA APHID (Aphis spiraeicola Patch)

Florida J. R. Watson (March 24): The citrus aphid (Aphis spiraeicola) is less in evidence this spring than in any year since 1923. This is caused by the severe drought and freezes of the past winter, which cut off its food supply. We are finding that the proportion of predators (ladybeetles and syrphus fly larvae) is three times as large as last year. They are having an appreciable effect in delaying the multiplication of the insect.

California Monthly News Letter, Los Angeles County Horticultural Commission, Vol. 10, No. 3 (March 15): Extensive spraying operations are

being conducted in the coastal-citrus areas of Los Angeles County, particularly at Whittier, Rivera, and Downey, according to Deputy Horticultural Commissioner H. H. Wilcomb, in charge of Fumigation and Spraying in Los Angeles County, for the control of the citrus aphid. Considerable damage to new budwood and blossoms is being occasioned by the attack of this pest and immediate remedial measures have been necessary.

TRUCK CROP INSECTS

MISCELLANEOUS FEEDERS

GRAY BLISTER BEETLE (Epicauta cinerea Forst.)

Florida J. R. Watson (March 24): Blister beetles (Epicauta cinerea Forst.) have been unusually abundant this year and in several instances have severely attacked citrus trees, feeding largely on the petals, also on the tender leaves.

VEGETABLE WEEVIL (Listroderes obliquus Gyll.)

General H. S. Barber (March 28): This species is only known from partheno-
Statement genetic females and appears to be an offshoot from Listroderes costirostis, which is indigenous to the eastern coast of South America from Brazil to Argentina. This latter species has both males and females. The parthenogenetic form, obliquus Gyll., has been introduced into various parts of the world where it is known as an economic pest. The sex-bearing species is not known except in its native country.

Mississippi R. W. Harned (March 24): The so-called vegetable weevil has been causing quite a bit of injury in the southern half of Mississippi. Serious damage to turnips was reported from Buckatunna March 13. Serious injury to tomato plants in cold frames was reported from Wesson and Fayette March 14.

SEED CORN MAGGOT (Hylemyia cilicrura Rond.)

Mississippi R. W. Harned (March 24): On March 22 a correspondent from Decatur sent to us some larvae that have been tentatively identified by Mr. J. M. Langston as the seed corn maggot, Phorbia fusciceps. A letter accompanying these specimens stated that they "had destroyed nearly all of my cabbage and onions."

POTATO

POTATO APHID (Illinoia solanifolii Ashm.)

California J. C. Elmore (March 10): The potato aphid is present in Los Angeles County in potato fields in large enough numbers to cause damage, but they are being kept in check by a large population of ladybird beetles and parasites. Other aphids also were present.

CABBAGE

CABBAGE APHID (Brevicoryne brassicae L.)

- Mississippi R. W. Harned (March 24): Aphids identified by A. L. Hamner as Brevicoryne brassicae were causing serious damage to collards at Yazoo City March 14.
- California J. C. Elmore (March 13): The cabbage aphid was observed to be very numerous in San Diego County and was reported to be doing considerable damage to cabbage and cauliflower.

HARLEQUIN BUG (Murgantia histrionica Hahn)

- Mississippi K. L. Cockerham (March 25): Rather severe damage is showing up on mustard. The crop had quite a yellowish tinge due to this pest. Adults were quite numerous at the time of examination, practically no nymphs being noticed.

STRAWBERRY

A WEEVIL (Brachyrhinus rugifrons Gyll.)

- Oregon Don C. Mote (March 21): Mr. Wilcox reports overwintering strawberry root weevils active. Specimens of B. rugosostriatus found in house.

STRAWBERRY ROOT WEEVIL (Brachyrhinus ovatus L.)

- Pacific Coast Monthly News Letter Los Angeles County Horticultural Commission, Vol. 10, No. 3, March 15: Numerous small white grubs, later determined by Prof. E. C. Van Dyke of the University of California, Berkeley, as one of the strawberry root weevils (B. ovatus) were recently intercepted by Quarantine Inspector Roy E. Mason of the Los Angeles County Horticultural Commissioner's office in a shipment of plants in soil from the State of Massachusetts. The finding of these grubs was the result of the exceedingly careful examination made by Mr. Mason of the soil in this shipment. This insect is a serious pest of strawberries in the Pacific Northwest and one against which the California State Department of Agriculture maintains a rigid quarantine as it is not known to occur generally within the State.

A WEEVIL (Dyslobus decorata Lec.)

- Oregon Don C. Mote (March 21): Adult of Dyslobus decorata Lec. coming out above ground at Corvallis.
- D. granicollis Lec. has been recorded from Oregon as attacking strawberries which seems to be first record of this species as injurious in the larval stage to cultivated strawberries.

PEPPER

PEPPER WEEVIL (Anthonomus eugenii Cano)

California

J. C. Elmore (February 28): The pepper weevil (adult stage) was found in large numbers on the common nightshade (probably Solanum douglasae) at Norwalk, Los Angeles County. Where pepper foliage is present in quantity the weevils have remained on the peppers but where the pepper fields have been recently plowed or where the peppers have been completely destroyed by frost the weevils have concentrated on the nightshade at the rate of 30 weevils per plant in the most outstanding instance. The weevils will not breed on nightshade but will live for some time on it. (March 13): The pepper weevil was found in all stages, eggs, larvae, pupae, and adults on bell peppers at Vista. Larvae and pupae were found also at Hillsdale 20 miles east of San Diego. These bell peppers are known as winter peppers and are plants that have survived the winter. They are cut back and the new growth produces a new or second crop. The pepper weevil may overwinter in large numbers on these plants.

Monthly News Letter Los Angeles County Horticultural Commission, Vol. 10, No. 3 (March 15): A cultural campaign for the control of the pepper weevil, a serious pest of that crop, present throughout Los Angeles County, and one which exacts a toll of 25 per cent of a crop valued at several thousand dollars in Southern California, requiring the immediate plowing and disking of all old pepper fields, has been complicated by the recent finding by Roy E. Campbell, in charge of Pepper Weevil Control Investigation, U. S. D. A., located at Alhambra, that this insect can be carried over on the common nightshade.

ONIONS

ONION THRIPS (Thrips tabaci L.)

Mississippi

K. L. Cockerham (March 29): This is one of the most severe cases of damage that I have ever noted on onions at Biloxi. The tops were quite yellow and dying down.

ARTICHOKES

ARTICHOKE PLUME MOTH (Platyptilia carduidactyla Riley)

California

Monthly News Letter Los Angeles County Horticultural Commission Vol. 10, No. 3 (March 15): Approximately twenty-five lots of artichokes have been rejected and reconditioning required during one week on the Los Angeles market according to the report of Deputy Horticultural Commissioner Paul K. Wilson, in charge of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Standardization law

enforcement in Los Angeles County, due to infestations of the artichoke plume moth. This insect is recorded as occasionally being a serious pest of this crop throughout the commercial producing areas of the State. Apparently it is much more active this season than normally.

SWEET POTATOES

A WIREWORM (Monocrepidius sp.)

Mississippi K. L. Cockerham (March 24): In a sweet potato storage house at Picayune, where 4,400 bushels of potatoes were stored, it was found upon grading these potatoes for market that 40 per cent of them had to be graded out because of wireworm injury. This damage was, of course, done last fall but its seriousness was not realized at that time. The species responsible for this damage is probably Monocrepidius sp.

RADISHES

SPOTTED CUCUMBER BEETLE (Diabrotica duodecimpunctata Fab.)

Mississippi K. L. Cockerham (March 10): This species was found attacking
and radishes at Biloxi on this date. The grower reported that damage
Alabama was being noticed from them in his truck patches. The first
adult of this species was noted on February 28 near Grand Bay,
Alabama.

S O U T H E R N F I E L D C R O P I N S E C T S

SUGARCANE

SUGARCANE BEETLE (Euetheola rugiceps Lec.)

Louisiana T. E. Holloway and W. E. Haley (March 20): The sugarcane beetle,
Euetheola rugiceps Lec., was found to be slightly injuring
sugarcane at a sugar plantation near New Orleans. One adult was
found.

TOBACCO

TOBACCO FLEA BEETLE (Epitrix parvula Fab.)

North C. H. Brannon (March 14): This insect is severely damaging tobacco
Carolina plant beds in various sections of the eastern part of the State.

F O R E S T A N D S H A D E T R E E I N S E C T S

MISCELLANEOUS FEEDERS

BAGWORM (Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis Haw.)

Ohio E. W. Mendenhall (March 8): At Columbus the bags are very

numerous on many sorts of trees, including evergreen trees and shrubbery of different kinds. The bagworms are increasing each year and doing considerable damage. (March 9): At Springfield, the bags of the bagworm are very plentiful on shade trees and the worms are doing considerable damage especially to the boxelder trees. At Dayton these insects are also very plentiful on shade trees, including evergreens and also shrubbery of different kinds. There were some very severe outbreaks. At Cincinnati they are reported very numerous on different kinds of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubbery.

Kansas J. W. McColloch (March 10): Bagworms are reported abundant on cedars at Wetmore.

BOXELDER

BOXELDER BUG (Leptocoris trivittatus Say)

Kansas J. W. McColloch (March 21): The boxelder bug is proving a nuisance in many homes over the State. Coming out of hibernation they have invaded dwellings in large numbers. Reported from the following counties:

Pawnee	Marshall
Barton	Riley
Jewell	Geary
Cloud	Coffee

CEDAR

DEODAR WEEVIL (Pissodes deodarae Hopk.)

Mississippi R. W. Harned (March 24): Weevils belonging to the species Pissodes deodarae have been reported as causing serious injury to Cedrus deodara plants at Meridian and Jackson during the past month. Weevils tentatively identified as this species were collected from Italian cypress at Brookhaven, March 15.

ELMS

CANKERWORMS (Geometridae)

Kansas J. W. McColloch (March 22): Cankerworms have been emerging in rather large numbers during the past month at Manhattan. The emergence has been especially heavy the last few days.

Missouri L. Haseman (March 31): The first male cankerworm moth appeared March 13.

PINE

PINE BARK APHID (Chermes pinicorticis Fitch)

North Carolina C. H. Brannon (March 20): This insect is reported by O. O. Dukes, County Agent, Lumberton, as doing severe damage to white pine trees in Lumberton.

GREENHOUSE AND ORNAMENTAL

PLANTS

CHRYSANTHEMUM

CHRYSANTHEMUM GALL MIDGE (Diarthronomyia hypogaea Loew)

Ohio E. W. Mendenhall (March 20): Chrysanthemum plants are badly infested with the midge in Springfield greenhouses, except the wholesale houses where regular and frequent inspections are made.

NARCISSUS

NARCISSUS BULB FLY (Merodon equestris Fab.)

Oregon Don C. Mote (March 16): At Corvallis 13 pupae and 2 larvae were found in soil of a narcissus bed. Only 1 larva was found in 23 bulbs examined.

TUBE ROSE

BULB MITE (Rhizoglyphus hyacinthi Boisd.)

North Carolina C. H. Brannon (March 26): This pest is causing severe damage to tube rose bulbs at Magnolia in Duplin County.

INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND DOMESTIC

ANIMALS

MAN

BEDBUG (Cimex lectularius L.)

Virginia & Maryland F. C. Bishopp (March 29): During the last month reports of infestations of bedbugs in poultry houses have come in from Virginia and Maryland.

HOUSE FLY (Musca domestica L.)

Texas F. C. Bishopp (March 28): A few house flies have been observed in restaurants and other buildings from time to time during the winter. There has, apparently been a slight increase in their numbers during the last month.

CLUSTER FLY (Pollenia rulis Fab.)

Texas F. C. Bishopp (March 28): During the winter numerous reports have come in from various central and northeastern states of annoyance from cluster flies which have entered the attics of homes for hibernation.

CATTLE

COMMON CATTLE GRUB (Hypoderma lineatum DeVill.)

Virginia F. C. Bishopp (March 27): A very few specimens of fifth (last) stage larvae of this species are found to be present in the backs of cattle on this date at Fairfax and Leesburg. Heel flies are reported to have been annoying cattle considerably during the last two weeks and especially on March 26.

NORTHERN CATTLE GRUB (Hypoderma bovis DeG.)

Virginia F. C. Bishopp (March 27): All stages of this species are present in the backs of dairy cattle at Fairfax and Leesburg, the maximum number found in any one animal being forty. In general the infestation in this section is light, as the majority of the cattle are entirely free.

HORN FLY (Haematobia irritans L.)

Texas D. C. Parman (March 24): In the Nueces Canyon there were scarcely any horn flies noted on the cattle along the road.

BLOWFLIES (Several species)

Texas D. C. Parman (March 24): Trappings at Uvalde indicate that flies in general have decreased rapidly during the week; Phormia regina about 75 per cent, Lucilia 50 per cent; Cochliomyia macellaria have increased about 10 per cent and others have decreased from 25 per cent to 50 per cent or more.

SCREW WORM (Cochliomyia macellaria Fab.)

Texas D. C. Parman (March 24): The first screw-worm flies to appear this spring were taken in a trap between March 2 and 9 at Uvalde.

GOAT

GOAT SCAB MITE (Chorioptes caprae Deb. Bourg.)

Texas F. C. Bishopp (March 24): During February a number of different flocks of goats were found to be infested with these mites. Prompt quarantine and energetic dipping of all infested or exposed animals is said to have practically, if not entirely, cleared up the infestations.

